image information formed by the image data ID, can be determined and also its shape, i.e. the location areas of the one or more primary image objects I1 in the image IT.

[0035] The data obtained from the calculation portion **26** of the focussed area can be sent to the filtering coefficient calculation module **22**. On the basis of the data of the focussed focus area, i.e. in other words of the portrait area, the final area, which is used in the calculation of the filtering coefficients, can be selected/calculated. This area can even be pixel-accurate, thus delimiting the primary image object I1 very precisely. On the other hand, the portrait area used can be entered, for instance manually, for example, by lassoing from a touch screen, if the device has one. The module **22** can calculate the filtering coefficients, by using which the secondary image objects, i.e. the areas I2 are blurred. The filtering coefficients calculated by the module **22** are provided to the filtering module **17**, which performs the blurring of the irrelevant image areas I2. This will be returned to in greater detail in the description of the method given next.

[0036] FIG. **3** shows a flow chart of a schematic example in principle of the method according to the invention in digital imaging for blurring inessential image areas I2. In the method description, reference is made to an example of an imaging situation, which is shown in FIG. **4**. In it, the image target IT consists of two people, a man with a briefcase and a woman reading a newspaper, as well as a short length of rolled-steel joist. In this case, the people are the primary image objects I1 while the length of joist is the secondary image object I2, which it is wished to blur. In general, the background area of the entire image area can, in connection with the invention, be understood as being such a secondary image object I2.

[0037] When imaging is started with the device **10**, the imaging program is activated, as stage **300**, which in this case applied automatic focussing. In stage **301**, the set of lenses **15** can be adjusted using the mechanism **14** to the initial focussing position.

[0038] As stage **302**, image data ID is formed using the sensor **12**, i.e. viewfinder shots are formed, for example, for the viewfinder VF. In practice, the formation of the image data ID is performed continuously, the frequency being, for example, 15-30 frames per second. In stages **303** and **304**, focussing operations that are, as such, known, can be performed. As such, all the blocks **301-304**, which are inside the block with a broken line around it, can be understood to be focussing sub-stages.

[0039] The actual focussing stages **303** and **304** can be taken care of automatically by the focussing module **28**, or allowance can also be made in them for operations made by the user. When focussing is carried out manually by the end user, the user can freely select the primary image objects I1 or image object areas FA, to be focussed, from the viewfinder VF. This automatic or manual selection also affects the objects to be blurred. In stage **303**, the user can, for example, from the image data ID formed by the sensor **12** for the viewfinder VF, to define at least one or even more image objects I1, on which it is wished to focus the camera means **11**, **14**. The selection made by the user can include, for example, the lassoing of an area, in which case even irregular objects can be set as primary image objects I1. On the other hand, the primary image object I1 can also be fitted to a predefined area with a rectangular or other shape. Several different kinds of areas can be predefined in the memory MEM of the device **10**.

[0040] In the automatic focussing/image-object selection application, focussing can be concentrated on, for example, one or more image areas (for example, on the centre of the imaging object). The focussing points can also be intelligently selected from the entire image area. One example of this is Canon's Ai-AF system (Artificial intelligence AF).

[0041] In stage **304**, by the module **28**, more particularly, for example, its sub-module **24**, can be determined whether the image object I1 has been focussed properly.

[0042] If it is determined, in stage **304**,, that the focussing is not correct, the automation **24** calculates new positions for the set of lenses **15**. After that, a return is made to stage **301**, in which the set of lenses **15** is moved to the new calculated positions. If, however, it is determined in stage **304** that the focussing is correct, the procedure moves to the actual imaging for storing, i.e. to stage **305**.

[0043] In stage **305**, imaging for storing is performed, when the trigger button of the camera **10** can be pressed all the way down. The image data ID captured using the sensor **12** is taken from the module **13**, which performs the AD conversion, to the image-processing chain **27**. In the image-processing chain **27**, colour interpolation, using module **16**, for example, can be performed as stage **306**. Other stages will also be obvious to one versed in the art and neither they, nor their order of performance are described here in greater detail.

[0044] Besides specific one or more image objects I1 being able to be focussed in the previous stages **303** and **304** in a manner that is, as such, known, this focussed image area I1, or more particularly its position, size, and/or shape can also be used to blur the undesired image objects and their areas I2, in stage **307**. For this purpose; there are code means **31.1** in the program code **31**. In stage **303**, the focussing point can be used to indicate one or more objects, i.e. in the context of the invention, a primary image object I1 inside the imaging target IT. Around the selected focussing point, for example, the edges and shapes of the image object I1 can be identified, for example, in order to determine the size of the image object I1 and the position of the focussing point. In other words, this refers to the determining of the size of the primary image object I1. This can be carried out by applying the statistical information from stages **303** and **304**, more generally produced by the focussing operation **28** obtained from the focussing stage indicated by the broken line. As a result of the operation, the secondary image objects I2 are, of course, also defined, these being defined by the code means **31.5**.

[0045] Once the information concerning the position and size of the focussed primary, area I1 of the imaging target IT has been obtained, various filtering operations, for example, can be performed on the image, by means of which the background, i.e. the secondary image objects I2 are blurred, or made less sharp, as desired. The code means **31.2** achieves this operation. The filtering can be of, for example, an evening type, such as spatial low-pass filtering. According to one embodiment, in the invention spatial filtering coefficients, for example, can be calculated using the module **22** (code means **31.3**). The filtering coefficients can forms, for example, a mask that convolutes the image, which can be used to process the inessential image areas I2.

[0046] The convoluting mask, or in general the filtering coefficients can be defined, for example, from the luminance